



**MINUTES** of the REGULAR MEETING of COUNCIL

Held at 7 pm **Thursday August 8, 2024**

In the Municipal Hall

Called to Order at 7:01 pm

Land Acknowledgement was read by Mayor Peter Murphy

**PRESENT:** Mayor Peter Murphy  
Councillor Don Lemaire  
Councillor Beverly Bell  
Councillor Michelle Lahaye  
Councillor Clwyd Edwards

Also Present: Clerk Treasurer JoAnne Montreuil  
Administrative Assistant Julie Daniel  
Road Supervisor Phil Bangs

Public in Attendance:

Delegation:

No Disclosure of Pecuniary interest or the general nature thereof was declared.

**Resolution No. 2024-089**

Moved by Councillor Lemaire  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

**Agenda**

BE IT RESOLVED that the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council being held August 8, 2024 is accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2024-090**

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor Lemaire

**Minutes**

BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held on July 11, 2024 are accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2024-091**

Moved by Councillor Lemaire  
Seconded by Councillor Edwards

**Closed Meeting**

BE IT RESOLVED that under the provision of the Municipal Act Section 2.39 (2)(e) and (f) "litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local boards;" and "advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communication necessary for that purpose," the meeting is closed at 7:15 pm in order to discuss documents received from the municipality's lawyer.

**CARRIED**



**Resolution No. 2024-092                      Open Meeting**

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor Lemaire

BE IT RESOLVED that the closed portion of the meeting is now adjourned at 7:20 pm and the remainder of the meeting is open to the public.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2024-093                      Mayor and Clerk to Sign Minutes of Settlement**

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor Lemaire

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Mattawan agree to the Minutes of Settlement dated August 8, 2024 and authorize the Mayor and the Clerk Treasurer to sign this document on behalf of the municipality.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2024-094                      Royal Canadian Legion Branch 254 Roof Project**

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor Lemaire

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Mattawan supports the Royal Canadian Legion Mattawa Branch 254 roof project.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2024-095                      Northern Ontario Shortage of Skilled Labour**

Moved by Councillor Lahaye  
Seconded by Councillor Lemaire

**WHEREAS** employers across Northern Ontario are experiencing a critical shortage of **skilled** workers, contributing to a shrinking labour market with an estimated 50,000 newcomers needed by 2041 to sustain current Northern Ontario population levels; and

**WHEREAS** the labour shortage is causing significant economic hardship for Northern Ontario communities, including reduced productivity and business closures; and

**WHEREAS** population and migration trends to 2021 suggest that Northern Ontario needs **100,000 newcomers by 2041** to sustain current population; and

**WHEREAS** the success of the federal Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) demonstrates the effectiveness of allocating nomination spots to address regional labour shortages in attracting newcomers to Northern Ontario; and

**WHEREAS** the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program has been expanded from 9,750 nominees in 2022 to a goal of 21,500 nominees in 2024;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Mattawan, urges the Government of Ontario to address the critical market shortage of skilled labour in Northern Ontario by allocating 3,000 Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program spots to support the region's economic growth and development; and



**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, local Members of Parliament, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2024-096**                      **Donation to Smoke ‘n’ Spurs**  
 Moved by Councillor Bell  
 Seconded by Councillor Lahaye

BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of Mattawan donate \$50.00 to the Smoke ‘n’ Spurs Festival.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2024-097**                      **Consent Items**  
 Moved by Councillor Bell  
 Seconded by Councillor Edwards

BE IT RESOLVED that the following correspondence/reports are marked received and filed in the Municipal Office.

<b>CONSENT ITEMS</b>		
July 18	Ashley Lecapellain, Executive Assistant, Office of the Medical Officer of Health/Executive Officer, North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit (NBPSDHU)	June 26, 2024 Board of Health, Finance and Property Committee and The Medical Officer Report to the Board of Health minutes
August 6	Paul Dube, Ombudsman of Ontario	2023-2024 Annual Report

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2024-098**                      **Cheque Registers 11321 - 11361**  
 Moved by Councillor Lemaire  
 Seconded by Councillor Edwards

BE IT RESOLVED that cheque registers for 11321 - 11361 are approved as paid in July 2024 totalling \$48,582.88.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2024-099**                      **Access to Free Private Well Testing**  
 Moved by Councillor Edwards  
 Seconded by Councillor Lemaire

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of Mattawan supports the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit resolution #BOH/2024/06/06, passed at the regular Board of Health meeting on June 26, 2024, regarding the recommendations on access to free private well testing.

**CARRIED**



**Resolution No. 2024-100**

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor Lemaire

**Regulation of Non-OEM or ULC Certified Lithium-ion Batteries**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of Mattawan supports the letter received from the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan and the Resolution of Support 2024-153 from the Municipality of East Ferris calling upon all levels of government to enact regulations for the importation, sale, storage and use of non-OEM or ULC certified lithium-ion batteries.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2024-101**

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor Lemaire

**Recognize the Physician Shortage and Fund Health Care Appropriately**

WHEREAS the state of health care in Ontario is in crisis, with 2.3 million Ontarians lacking access to a family doctor, emergency room closures across the province, patients being de-rostered and 40% of family doctors considering retirement over the next five years; and

WHEREAS it has become increasingly challenging to attract and retain an adequate healthcare workforce throughout the health sector across Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Northern Ontario School of Medicine University says communities in northern Ontario are short more than 350 physicians, including more than 200 family doctors; and half of the physicians working in northern Ontario expect to retire in the next five years; and

WHEREAS Ontario municipal governments play an integral role in the health care system through responsibilities in public health, long-term care, and paramedicine; and

WHEREAS the percentage of family physicians practicing comprehensive family medicine has declined from 77 percent in 2008 to 65 percent in 2022; and

WHEREAS per capita health-care spending in Ontario is the lowest of all provinces in Canada; and

WHEREAS a robust workforce developed through a provincial, sector-wide health human resources strategy would significantly improve access to health services across the province;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Municipality of Mattawan urge the Province of Ontario to recognize the physician shortage in the Town of Mattawa and Ontario, to fund health care appropriately and ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2024-102**

Moved by Councillor Edwards  
Seconded by Councillor Lemaire

**Blue Box "Ineligible" Source**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council for the Municipality of Mattawan supports Resolution 402-2024, received from the Town of Cochrane, calling on the Provincial Government to amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box for 'Ineligible' Source and that this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Honourable Victor Fedeli, MPP District of Nipissing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

**CARRIED**



**Resolution No. 2024-103**

**Workshop for Staff**

Moved by Councillor Lemaire

Seconded by Councillor Edwards

BE IT RESOLVED that the Clerk Treasurer and the Administrative Assistant attend the Fred Dean's Workshop for Staff on October 2, 2024 in North Bay at a cost of \$450.00

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. 2024-104**

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor Lemaire

Seconded by Councillor Edwards

BE IT RESOLVED that this regular meeting of Council held August 8, 2024 is adjourned.  
Time: 8 pm.

**CARRIED**

**The next Regular Council Meeting will be September 12, 2024 at 7 pm.**

---

**Mayor Peter Murphy**

---

**Clerk Treasurer, JoAnne Montreuil**

**DRAFT**